

## Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 INR-10 NSAE-00 NASA-04 NSC-07 RSC-01 SCI-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5608

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TAGS TSPA PFOR UN UR

SUBJ OUTER SPACE LEGAL: CONSULTATIONS WITH SOV DEL

REF GENEVA 2835

1. SUMMARY. US AND USSR DELS TO UN OUTER SPACE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE CONSULTED ON OSLS AGENDA ITEMS MAY 7. POSITIONS CLOSE ON REGISTRATION; DIVERGENT VIEWS ON OTHER ITEMS MAINTAINED IN RESTRAINED MANNER.

2. DETAILS. US AND USSR OSLS DELS MET AM MAY 7 FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON MATTERS BEFORE SUBCOMMITTEE. TONE WAS CORDIAL AND CONTENT CANDID; SOVS INDICATED RESTRAINT IN THEIR APPROACH TO SOME PREVIOUSLY CONTENTIOUS ISSUES.

3. AFTER EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES USSR REP PIRADOV ASKED WHETHER US HAD ANY NEW THOUGHTS ON HOLDOVER ITEMS ON OSLS AGENDA. US REP REIS NOTED US PROPOSAL FOR RE-ORGANIZATION OF MOON TREATY (COPY OF WHICH HAD BEEN PASSED IN ADVANCE TO SOVS) WAS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO SUBSTANCE OF ARTICLES ALREADY AGREED. WE THOUGHT, HOWEVER, THAT TREATY WOULD BENEFIT SUBSTANTIALLY FROM REORGANIZATION

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WHATEVER WAS OUTCOME ON REMAINING UNRESOLVED ISSUES.

WITH RESPECT TO THESE, WE CONTINUED TO REGARD NATURAL RESOURCES EXPLOITATION AS MOST DIFFICULT AND STILL BELIEVED OTHER ISSUES COULD BE RESOLVED QUICKLY ONCE THIS WAS SOLVED. PUTTING IDEA FORWARD ON PERSONAL BASIS, REIS ASKED USSR DEL'S THOUGHTS ON ACCEPTABILITY TO SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF DROPPING RESOURCES PROVISION ENTIRELY.

4. PIRADOV (WITH AUGMENTATION BY MAIORSKIY) REPLIED THIS WOULD BE GOOD IDEA, BUT SOVDEL DOUBTED THAT IT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED. DEVELOPING COUNTRY INTEREST IN RESOURCES QUESTION WAS TOO KEEN. BECAUSE OF TOUCHINESS OF SUBJECT, USSR HAD NOT ATTEMPTED SOUNDINGS ON POSSIBLE CHANGES IN ATTITUDE ON THIS ISSUE ON PART OF KEY OSC MEMBERS, E.G., INDIA AND EGYPT. SOVS, HOWEVER, WERE CONSIDERING PROPOSAL TO SPLIT PRESENT DRAFT ARTICLE WHICH COVERS BOTH POTENTIAL RESOURCE EXPLOITATION AND INADMISSIBILITY OF TERRITORIAL CLAIMS AND TRANSFERS. ON RESOURCES, USSR WOULD PROPOSE PROVIDING THESE WERE SUBJECT TO COMMON USE BY ALL STATES AND THUS ESCAPE DIFFICULTIES OF "COMMON HERITAGE" CONCEPT. ASKED HOW US WOULD REACT TO THIS APPROACH, REIS REPLIED THAT WE WOULD CERTAINLY NOT OBJECT, BUT HAD NO IDEA WHAT REACTION OF INDIANS, EGYPTIANS AND OTHERS MIGHT BE. (IN GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT PM MAY USSR WENT FORWARD WITH "COMMON USE" PROPOSAL WITHOUT DISCUSSING SPLIT OF ARTICLE (SEPTEL)).

5. REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF FINISHING WORK ON MOON TREATY AT CURRENT OSLS SESSION, PIRADOV ASKED WHETHER US WANTED IT "COMPLETED" PRIOR TO 1975 US-USSR JOINT MANNED SPACE MISSION (MEANING THAT UNGA WOULD HAVE TO TAKE FINAL ACTION ON TREATY AT 1974 SESSION). REIS REPLIED THAT IF SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF ALL OUTSTANDING ISSUES COULD BE ACHIEVED AT CURRENT OSLS SESSION US WOULD BE GRATIFIED AND CERTAINLY WOULD NOT OBSTRUCT PROCESS; HOWEVER, WE DID NOT PERCEIVE ANY URGENCY IN FINISHING TREATY OR ANY DIRECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TREATY AND JOINT MISSION WHICH DID NOT INVOLVE LUNAR OR PLANETARY EXPLORATION.

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6. ON REGISTRATION, PIRADOV SAID HE THOUGHT US AND USSR POSITIONS VERY CLOSE, AND ASKED WHETHER WE ENVISAGED ANY CHANGE IN SITUATION RE MARKING ISSUE. REIS REPLIED THAT OUR POSITION ON MARKING WAS UNCHANGED. WE UNDERSTOOD CANADIANS AND FRENCH WERE ACTIVELY PURSUING COMPROMISE WHICH WOULD ALLOW STATES SO DESIRING TO MARK AND REPORT TO SYG WITHOUT ANY COMPULSION ON OTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE. PENDING RESULTS OF CANADIAN-FRENCH EFFORTS

WE PLANNED NOT TO RAISE MARKING ISSUE.

7. ON DBS, PIRADOV ASSERTED IN LOW KEY MANNER THAT IT WAS TIME OSLS "GOT SOMETHING DOWN IN WRITING." USSR HAD BEEN GRATIFIED OVER AGREEMENT IN DBS WORKING GROUP ON NUMBER OF PRINCIPLES AND THOUGHT THESE SHOULD BE BASIS FOR AGREEMENT IN SUBCOMMITTEE. HE SAID NOTHING ABOUT TRYING TO FINISH NEGOTIATION OF FULL SET OF PRINCIPLES AT THIS SESSION.

8. ASKED BY ANDERSON OF USDEL WHETHER SOVDEL HAD ANY SPECIFIC VIEWS ON REMOTE SENSING, PIRADOV REPLIED NON-COMMITTALLY THAT ISSUES INVOLVED WERE IMPORTANT TO MANY COUNTRIES. HE INDICATED NEITHER A SENSE OF URGENCY ABOUT RESOLVING SUCH ISSUES NOR DISSATISFACTION OVER RELATIVELY BRIEF TIME ALLOCATED TO ERS IN SUBCOMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM.

9. IN CONCLUSION PIRADOV BROUGHT UP OLD QUESTION OF OSLS VENUE. SOVS, HE SAID, HAD RECENT INFORMATION THAT ALL SUBCOMMITTEE SESSIONS COULD BE HELD IN GENEVA AT "INSIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN COST." IF US DID NOT OBJECT USSR WOULD ASK OSLS STAFF TO OBTAIN AND REPORT ON COMPARATIVE COST FIGURES BEFORE END OF CURRENT SESSION. WE REPLIED THAT WHILE WE CONSIDERED NEW YORK-GENEVA ROTATION FIRM AGREEMENT WE WOULD NOT OBJECT TO REQUEST FOR COST ANALYSIS HE HAD SUGGESTED. PIRADOV REQUESTED USDEL IN REPORTING ON CONVERSATION TO INDICATE THAT SOV GOVT REGARDED OSLS VENUE AS "MATTER OF SOME IMPORTANCE."

10. CONVERSATION ENDED WITH SOVDEL EXPRESSING SATISFACTION OVER CONSULTATIONS AND INTEREST IN CLOSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND CONTINUING CONTACTS WITH USDEL THROUGHOUT SUBCOMMITTEE SESSION. WE AGREED TO MEET WHENEVER DELS CONSIDERED FURTHER CONVERSATIONS WOULD BE USEFUL.  
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